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Resources @ EJP

Documentaries on Conditions of Imprisonment, Reentry, Mass Incarceration, and Related Topics

TITLE

DESCRIPTION

Birder, M. (2009). *The Visitors*.

Retrieved from: <https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x2p6olu>

The Visitors is an unexpected look at the US prison system through the eyes of the travelers who head to remote New York prisons every weekend to visit their loved ones.

Burns, K., & Burns, S., & McMahon, D. (2012). *The Central Park Five*.

Retrieved from: <https://www.pbs.org/kenburns/the-central-park-five/>

The Central Park Five delves into the 1988 case involving five wrongfully convicted teenagers of raping a woman in Central Park in New York City. The film illustrates how media can impact the idea of a fair trial, but also how racism contributes to the mass incarceration rates of people of color.

Cretton, D. (2020). *Just Mercy*.

Retrieved from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7MxXxFu6fl>

The true story of a young lawyer with the odds and the entire system stacked against him.

De Granados, O., & Reynolds, J. (2006). *Nuestra Familia, Our Family*.

Retrieved from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QknKBMMiZko>

Nuestra Familia, Our Family features interviews in prison and on the streets with family members and gang members opening up about their lives, painting a haunting picture rarely seen by the public.

DuVernay, A. (2019). *When They See Us*.

Retrieved from: <https://www.netflix.com/title/80200549>

The story of five teens who are wrongly accused of a brutal attack in Central Park. Based on a true story.

DuVernay, A., & Barish, H., & Averick, S. (2016). *The 13th*.

Retrieved from: <https://www.netflix.com/title/80091741>

An in-depth examination of the U.S. prison system and racial inequality.

Edge, D. (1983). *“Frontline” Prison State*.

Retrieved from: <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/prison-state/>

Prison State takes an intimate look at the cycle of incarceration in America, and one state’s effort to reverse the trend.

Edge, D. (1983). *“Frontline” Prison State*.

Retrieved from: <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/prison-state/>

Prison State takes an intimate look at the cycle of incarceration in America, and one state’s effort to reverse the trend.

Isralson, O., & Matta, L. (2005). *Prison Lullabies*.

Retrieved from: <http://prisonlullabies.com/>

A portrait of four women struggling with drug addiction, indicted for dealing and prostitution, and serving prison time with one common bond – arrested pregnant.

Jarecki, E., & Shoptsin, M. (2012). *The House I Live In*.

Retrieved from: https://tubitv.com/movies/372320/the_house_i_live_in?utm_source=google-feed&tracking=google-feed

Filmed in more than twenty states, *The House I Live In* captures heart-wrenching stories of those on the front lines of the war on drugs — from the dealer to the grieving mother, the narcotics officer to the senator, the inmate to the federal judge — and offers a penetrating look at the profound human rights implications of America’s longest war.

Kashi, E., & Dimmock, J., & Gilbertson, A., (2013). *The Long Shadow of Incarceration’s Stigma*.

Retrieved from: <https://vimeo.com/73159834>

A short documentary film created by VII in partnership with the Think Outside the Cell Foundation on the experience of reentry into society in the United States after prison.

Kotlowitz, A., & James, S. (2012). *The Interrupters*.

Retrieved from: <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/interrupters/>

A documentary that follows the Innocence Justice Project, which works to free wrongly convicted men from a broken prison system.

Ling, L., & Bucher, A., & Smith, D. (2011). *Incarceration Generation: Families Left Behind | Our America with Lisa Ling | Oprah Winfrey Network*.

Retrieved from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WXxtQJZeA2g&list=PLI6Fgfk8ykikmaqpcbshrGpsWorkPEPij&index=16>

Lisa Ling meets the single wife and children of an inmate to find out how prison affects the family as a whole.

Lyons, J., & Rivet-River, J. (2010). *War on the Family: Mothers in Prison and the Children They Leave Behind*.

Retrieved from: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1687937/>

A documentary exploring the causes and effects of incarcerating mothers for non-violent drug offenses.

Maing, S., & Metzgar, E.D., & Tuttle, R. (2018). *Crime and Punishment*.

Retrieved from: <https://www.hulu.com/movie/crime-punishment-f141e4b4-b89c-4bbd-a938-6728ce6a7fdc>

A documentary that reveals the NYPD quotas for police officers which, in turn, reveals the imperfections and disparities of the American police system.

Miller, T. (2012). *Attica: The Bars That Bind Us*.

Retrieved from: <https://vimeo.com/39548436>

This film is about the aspects of denying a system in order to survive by demonstrating an expansive prison system with problems of wealth inequality, racism, and drug addiction through mass incarceration.

Neufeld, P., & Ross Williams, R. (2020).

The Innocence Files.

Retrieved from: <https://www.netflix.com/search?q=the%20innocence%020&jbv=80214563>

A documentary that follows the Innocence Justice Project, which works to free wrongly convicted men from a broken prison system.

Nicks, P. (2017). *The Force*.

Retrieved from: <https://www.netflix.com/title/80168198>

The film reveals the wildly complicated injustices within Oakland PD and touches on the way in which we need to recreate the narrative/culture around police on the outside.

Perkins, T., & Dana, J., & Gill, S. (2018). *Life After Life*.

Retrieved from: <http://www.lifeafterlifemovie.com/>

Story of two men released after being incarcerated for decades; interviews with the two men, their family members

Pillischer, M. (2012). *Broken on All Sides: Race, Mass Incarceration and New Visions for Criminal Justice in the U.S.*

Retrieved from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WlNg5GnIUYE>

This documentary is a film by Philadelphia community activist Matthew Pillischer, is a powerful indictment of the prison industrial complex by discovering topics of institutionalized racism, war on drugs, the New Jim Crow laws, community organizing.

Sington, D., & Riley, C., & Rose, H. (2015). *The Fear of 13*.

Retrieved from: <https://www.netflix.com/title/80099305>

This film tells the story of an individual who, after 20 years being on death row, petitions the court asking to be executed.

Story, B. (2017). *The Prison in Twelve Landscapes*.

Retrieved from: https://vimeo.com/155760158?utm_campaign=5370367&utm_source=affiliate&utm_channel=affiliate&cjevent=15ae7259c60811ea825201120a24060e

This docuseries reveals the truth of how the prison system affects different aspects of life across various landscapes.

Sutton, P. (2010). *Prison Through Tomorrow's Eyes*.

Retrieved from: <https://filmfreeway.com/1867>

Award-winning feature documentary that chronicles the life-changing adventure of 24 college students who spent a week exploring the depths of California's massive prison system

Compiled by : Jonathan Cu